This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Transplantation				
Organ transplant rejection	CD28	<p>Studies in cell culture and in nonhuman primates suggest that inhibiting CD28 could help prevent organ transplant rejection. In human and nonhuman primate immune cell cultures, an anti-CD28 antibody reduced the proliferation and activation of effector T cells that contribute to transplant rejection. The antibody did not block activation of T_{regs} that induce transplant tolerance. In nonhuman primate models of kidney and heart transplantation, the antibody plus immunosuppressive therapy prolonged graft survival compared with no treatment or immunosuppressive therapy alone. Next steps could include testing the long-term efficacy of anti-CD28 therapy in nonhuman primate models of transplantation.</p> <p>SciBX 3(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.226 Published online Feb. 18, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Poirier, N. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Feb. 3, 2010; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000116 Contact: Gilles Blanco, University Hospital Nantes, Nantes, France e-mail: gilles.blanco@chu-nantes.fr</p>